

Illinois National Guard

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Krumrei assumes command



Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Kassidy L. Snyder, Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Daniel M. Krumrei of Springfield, the Adjutant General salutes Col. William Robertson, the 182nd Airlift Wing Commander during a Change of Command ceremony at Glenwood High School in Chatham, March 2. U.S. Congressman and retired Maj. Gen. William L. Enyart of Belleville performs the military tradition of trooping the line with Krumrei.

Guardsman recalls service in Women's Army Corps

Story by Staff Sgt. Jaime Witt
139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

SPRINGFIELD – Each March, Women's History Month celebrations highlight the accomplishments of women everywhere. Women have served in the active component since World War II, however women were not allowed to enlist in the Army National Guard with no prior service until 1972. Sgt. 1st Class Wendy Bartlett of Bloomington, is one of the few remaining women who served in the Women's Army Corps (WAC) and still serves in the Illinois Army National Guard today.



Sgt. 1st Class
Wendy Bartlett

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Soldier contracts Lyme disease, warns others

Story by Sgt. Michael Camacho
Illinois National Guard Public Affairs Office

SPRINGFIELD – With spring around the corner and more outside training, Illinois Guardsmen should be aware of the dangers of tick bites, which can lead to Lyme disease.

Sgt. Megan Crist of Niantic, with Company A, 634th Brigade Support Battalion in Mattoon knows these dangers all too well.

"I'm just a small town girl who no one knows," said Crist. "I however have a story I would like the public to hear so awareness and hopefully someday help and relief can be brought to all those that suffer from this awful, miserable and debilitating disease known as Lyme disease."

Last summer doctors told 26-year-old Crist she needed a pacemaker to live.

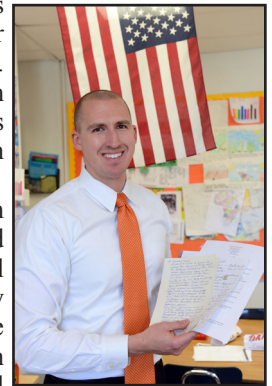
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Officer Candidate wins VFW Teacher of the Year

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Kassidy L. Snyder
Illinois National Guard Public Affairs Office

EDWARDSVILLE – Writing letters to Pearl Harbor veterans, proposing Senate bills and constructing innovative projects are just a few things happening in Officer Candidate Matthew J. Maddox's classroom at Columbus Elementary School in Edwardsville.

Maddox, a fifth grade teacher and Illinois National Guardsman, recently was named the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) National Teacher of the Year for kindergarten through fifth grades.



Officer Candidate
Matthew Maddox

"He has grown into a fantastic teacher," said Vince Schlueter of Edwardsville, Columbus Elementary School principal. "He puts a lot of effort to bring real-life projects into the classroom, along with teaching students about the military."

Maddox, whose father was an educator and retired Air Force senior master sergeant, said he has always focused on honoring veterans and inviting them into the classroom. He wants his students to look up to veterans and also have a love for learning.

After discussing various military options with close friends, Maddox joined the Illinois National Guard in July 2011 and is assigned to the 445th Chemical Company in Shiloh.

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National Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April 24th

Camp Lincoln will host
Sexual Assault Awareness Day

Events include:

Senior leader emphasis briefing
Sexual harassment overview
Sexual assault overview
Community resource fair

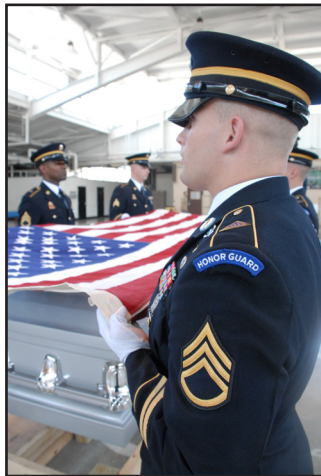
Funerals and Honors reaches milestone

Story by Capt. Dutch Grove
Illinois National Guard Public Affairs

SPRINGFIELD – Laying a military veteran to rest can be one of the most emotionally difficult things to do and a group of Illinois National Guard Soldiers and Airmen have carried that burden more than 30,000 times over the past 12 years.

The Illinois National Guard Military Funerals and Honors Team began in August 2001 when then 2nd Lt. Shannon (Niemi) Hicks, a native of Nokomis, Ill., was hired to start the program from scratch.

“We may have supported a few hundred funerals in the year 2000 upon request from the U.S. Army Maneuver Support Center at Fort Leonard Wood, but we didn’t



Staff Sgt. Brandon Page
Funerals and Honors instructor

have anyone managing our program,” said Hicks.

Hicks, now a major assigned as the Inspector General for the Virginia Air National Guard, recalled being a one-woman-band and working 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week to get the program off the ground.

“I even visited the Old Guard at Arlington Cemetery and two or three other states to gain wisdom and skills on how to get the program up and running and how to train the Soldiers,” said Hicks.

When Hicks started the program she said it was difficult to find a dependable team because Soldiers were paid a base rate for a day.

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We must be ready today and tomorrow

As Airmen and Soldiers, we raised our right hand and solemnly swore to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. Our enemies emerged from the shadows on 9-11 and today, in the Global War on Terror, we are taking the fight directly to them. With the current deployments to Afghanistan winding down and while units off-ramp we must still be Ready, Reliable and Relevant.



Brig. Gen. William Cobetto
Assistant Adjutant General-Air

We all have a role to play and we must continually evaluate whether we are doing everything we can to support the mission. If the call comes tomorrow for you to deploy to Bagram, Kandahar, or wherever our state and nation needs you, are you ready to go? You must be. We are the state and nation’s guardians!

By now, many of you are familiar with frequent or extended deployments. Thank you for your continued dedication and sacrifice.

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PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

- **633rd Theater Gateway returns home from Kuwait**
- **Gulf War Veterans honored at ceremony**
- **TAG presents award at Coach of the Year Luncheon**
- **Guard Running Team competes in Little Rock**
- **Museum unveils new war flag display case**
- **Chaplain Challenge**

The Railsplitter

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DEADLINES

Story and photo submissions are due the 1st of each month to ng.il.larng.list.staff-pao@mail.mil

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Governor
Adjutant General
State PAO
Editor

Pat Quinn
Brig. Gen. Daniel M. Krumrei
Maj. Brad E. Leighton
Sgt. 1st Class Cassidy L. Snyder

Hanging up their boots after 20+ years of service

■ Col. Wesley Anderson

Joint Force Headquarters

■ Lt. Col. Mark Pennell

182nd Airlift Wing

■ Maj. Kurt Walser

HHC, 108th Sustainment Brigade

■ Master Sgt. David Ammermann

1144th Transportation Battalion

■ Master Sgt. Nicholas Peters

1144th Transportation Battalion

■ Sgt. 1st Class Clarence Cushing

Det. 3, Company A, 35th Infantry Division

■ Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Fletcher

129th Regional Training Institute

■ Master Sgt. Hayley Heuermann

182nd Airlift Wing

■ Master Sgt. Martin Johnson

182nd Airlift Wing

■ Master Sgt. Brian Jones

183rd Fighter Wing

■ Sgt. 1st Class Carl Langa

Recruiting and Retention Battalion

■ Master Sgt. Christopher Lashbrook

126th Air Refueling Wing

■ Sgt. 1st Class Orval Stuckemeyer

129th Regional Training Institute

■ Sgt. 1st Class Justin Webster

444th Chemical Company

■ Staff Sgt. Luis Aguayo

1244th Transportation Company

■ Staff Sgt. Patrick Brown

3625th Maintenance Company

■ Tech. Sgt. Debra Caruso

182nd Airlift Wing

■ Tech. Sgt. Christopher Fasig

182nd Airlift Wing

■ Tech. Sgt. Glenn Lindquist

126th Air Refueling Wing

■ Tech. Sgt. John Madison

126th Air Refueling Wing

■ Tech. Sgt. Charles Perrin

182nd Airlift Wing

MDAY AKO e-mail migration

Step 1: Determine your new email address

Step 2: Update your information on MilConnect

Step 3: Reduce your mailbox size

Click here for detailed instructions

DTS phishing scam

The scam consists of the DTS user receiving an email and asking to sign their authorization immediately or travel will be cancelled.

Click here for more details